

Application No. 10/706,606

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 17, 19 and 37 are amended. Claims 2, 18, 20-21, and the second claim 25 are canceled. Claims 1, 3-17, 19, and 22-39 are pending.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2, 18, and 21.

Claim Objection

The claims were objected to in that there were two claims numbered 25. In response, the second instance of claim 25 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant submits that the claim objection is thereby obviated.

Claim Rejections Based on Obviousness-Type Double Patenting

Claims 1, 3-17, 19, 20, and 22-39 were rejected based on the doctrine of obviousness type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,357,193. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Solely to advance the prosecution of this application, however, and without any disclaimer of subject matter, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 17 and 19 to include the subject matter of dependent claims 2, 18, and 20-21 respectively, as suggested by the Examiner. Claims 2, 18, and 20-21 are accordingly canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn in view of the amendments.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

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The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,



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